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Critical Infrastructure Activities and Events

Secretary Napolitano Addresses the 2010 Chemical Sector Security Summit



Drawing more than 400 partners from around the country, the 2010 Chemical Sector Security Summit held in Baltimore, Maryland, from July 7-8, 2010, provided a forum for information sharing and highlighted the need for collaboration between the public and private sectors.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano provided the keynote address at the Summit, stating that “Flexible, practical, and collaborative programs such as DHS’ National Infrastructure Protection Plan, the Chemical Sector Coordinating Council, and Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS), play a key role in enhancing the security and resilience of our nation’s chemical facilities and other critical infrastructure.”

Deputy Under Secretary Phil Reitering

introduced the Secretary and highlighted the Department’s cybersecurity cooperation with the Chemical Sector. Assistant Secretary Todd Keil provided opening remarks on the second day, and focused on IP’s regional approach and voluntary programs to enhance chemical facility security.

The Office of Infrastructure Protection, as the Chemical Sector-Specific Agency, together with the Chemical Sector Coordinating Council, co-sponsored the annual Summit, now in its fourth year. The Summit attracted a diverse array of Chemical Sector owners and operators; Federal, State, and local officials; congressional staff; and representatives from the international community. The plenary and breakout sessions included presentations and discussions on CFATS, threats to the Chemical Sector, local security resources, transportation risk, personnel surety, research and development in inherently safer technology, and cybersecurity.

To view presentations from this year’s Summit and to read Assistant Secretary Keil’s speech, please visit the Chemical Sector Security Summit Web site at http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/gc_1176736485793.shtm.

For more information on the Chemical Sector Security Summit, please contact Amy Graydon or Esther Langer at ChemicalSector@dhs.gov.

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DHS and Public Safety Canada Announce an Action Plan for Critical Infrastructure

On July 13, 2010, Janet Napolitano, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Vic Toews, Minister of Public Safety Canada, announced the “Canada-U.S. Action Plan for Critical Infrastructure,” designed to strengthen the safety, security, and resilience of critical infrastructure in the U.S. and Canada through an enhanced cross-border approach.

The Action Plan is part of ongoing cross-border collaboration between the U.S. and Canadian Governments. The Action Plan identifies partnerships, information sharing, and risk management as the three key elements. Each area has specific actions that the Department of Homeland Security and Public Safety Canada will take to enhance coordination and cooperation and to better prevent, respond to, and recover from critical infrastructure disruptions.

The Action Plan is posted at http://www.dhs.gov/files/publications/gc_1278689065644.shtm.

Regional and Local Information Sharing Enhancement

IP is partnering with the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC) to improve regional information sharing between various levels of government and critical infrastructure owners and operators. Mechanisms set up as a result of this partnership allow rapid, real-time information sharing.



The partnership follows the governance structure provided by the CIKR Information Sharing Environment and utilizes technologies such as the Homeland Security Information Network—Critical Sectors (HSIN-CS) to serve as a conduit for information between members of the public safety community, critical infrastructure owners and operators, and the Federal Government.

The NCRIC’s Private Sector Advisory Council, drawn from entities across multiple sectors in the Northern California Region, serves as the Information Sharing Working Group, which defined membership criteria, drafted standard operating procedures and other requirements, and developed the desired look and feel of the HSIN-NCRIC portal, adapting it to their communication and coordination requirements. This tailored space provides access to sub-portals created specifically for local critical infrastructure partners and grants direct access for owners and operators to the NCRIC, where they can submit tips, questions, or suggestions.

The partnership proved valuable in its recent use during the trial of a former Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) police officer. The Regional Incident Discussion Board on HSIN-NCRIC provided a vital link between infrastructure owners and operators, the Fusion Center, and the respective emergency operations centers activated in advance of the trial verdict. The collaboration proved necessary, as riots erupted in downtown Oakland. The rapid communications enabled through HSIN-NCRIC led to the safe closure and restoration of businesses in the downtown Oakland area.

For more information on the CIKR Information Sharing Environment, contact CIKRISAccess@dhs.gov. To inquire about the NCRIC, visit <http://ncric.org>.

Visualizing Critical Infrastructure—IP Addresses the Largest Annual World Gathering of GIS Professionals

Director of the Contingency Planning and Incident Management Division, Steve King, gave the keynote address at this year’s Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) International Homeland Security Geographic Information System (GIS) Summit in San Diego, California on July 10-13, 2010. Improving incident management and response through situational awareness, and enhancing future operations using infrastructure visualization tools were key points of the address entitled “Enabling Infrastructure Data to Protect Critical Infrastructure.” Mr. King introduced this gathering of government and private sector GIS experts from around the world to IP’s Integrated Common Analytical Viewer, geospatial production, and remote sensing support. Learn more from www.dhs.gov/icav.

As a preliminary event to the wider ESRI International User Conference, the Home-



land Security GIS Summit gave government and private sector attendees the opportunity to explore GIS technologies available to support their homeland security missions. IP also was an exhibitor at the User Conference. Many conference attendees stopped by the IP booth to learn about the National Infrastructure Protection Plan and IP programs and tools for collecting, managing, and visualizing infrastructure data.

The ESRI International User Conference provided more than 10,000 practitioners with a venue to come together and share insights on the future of GIS through various sessions, technical workshops, exhibits, and user meetings. In addition, hardware vendors, software dealers, application developers, service providers, and data publishers presented their products and services. Conference participants ranged from new users of ESRI's GIS software to seasoned GIS professionals.

News from the Sectors

Commercial Facilities Sector Security and Awareness

To promote training, education, and awareness, IP has coordinated several events and exercises to provide direct support to the Commercial Facilities Sector.

One example of a DHS-sector collaborative effort is the retail awareness video, "What's in Store: Ordinary People - Extraordinary Events." The video employs real-world scenarios to illustrate the appropriate actions employees should take if they observe suspicious activity. Additional Web-based trainings, including the "Active Threat Recognition for Retail Security Officers" and "Threat Detection and Reaction for Retail and Shopping Center Staff," use a variety of case studies to explain lessons learned and specific considerations for retail and shopping centers.

The success of the training exercises is documented in performance measures—retail and shopping center training sessions increased from 2,410 in December 2009 to 13,656 in February 2010. Over the same time period, a significant increase was observed in the number of retail security officers trained, from 41 to 942.

For questions about the training items highlighted above, contact the Commercial Facilities Sector-Specific Agency representatives at CFSTeam@hq.dhs.gov. To access additional Commercial Facilities Sector resources, visit www.dhs.gov/cfsector.

To inquire about partnering with IP on security and awareness activities, contact Critical Infrastructure Partnership Programs at Sector.Partnerships@dhs.gov.



Dams Sector Regional Baseline Assessment Workshop

DHS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and public and private stakeholders from the Green River Valley in Washington State are collaborating to conduct the 2010 Dams Sector Exercise Series – Green River Valley (DSES-10) to address regional disaster resilience issues. Every year since 2008, the DSES program has collaborated with public and private partners within a region to identify, analyze, assess, and enhance regional preparedness and disaster resilience using a series of multi-jurisdictional, discussion-based activities (e.g., workshops, seminars, and tabletops).

DSES-10 focuses on the analysis of short- and long-term regional impacts resulting from a flooding scenario. The primary goals of this collaborative effort are to achieve a greater understanding of the potential impacts associated with significant flooding events along the Green River Valley, identify critical

infrastructure interdependencies that influence local and regional disruptions, and assist public and private stakeholders in improving recovery strategies and business continuity plans.

The DSES-10 Regional Baseline Assessment Workshop was conducted on June 30, 2010 in Seattle, Washington. More than 60 representatives from Green River Valley local government, private entities, non-profit organizations, the State of Washington, and Federal Government agencies participated in this event. The workshop was a working session to review and evaluate the ongoing regional baseline assessment activities that identify and characterize infrastructure interdependencies, supply chain dependencies, and public and private sector business continuity capabilities that may serve as effective drivers to enhance regional resilience. Stakeholders had an opportunity

to discuss preliminary findings and gather active feedback and recommendations from regional partners.

The workshop also provided an effective forum to discuss additional aspects of the DSES-10 effort, which includes regional consequence assessment activities and the development of a regional resilience strategy. This strategy will help public and private stakeholders identify and prioritize challenges and potential solutions to enhance regional resilience. For more information, please visit www.DSES10.org or contact DSES10@dhs.gov.

> Resources Available for DHS Critical Infrastructure Partners

Infrastructure Protection (IP) sponsors a free online NIPP training course at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp>. IP also has a trade show booth available for sector use. Please contact NIPP@dhs.gov for information on IP participation and/or exhibition at an upcoming sector event or to schedule a trained speaker for your event.

> Implementation Success Stories

IP continues to seek NIPP and/or SSP implementation success stories from the sectors to be shared with other critical infrastructure partners. Please submit suggestions or brief write-ups to NIPP@dhs.gov.

> NIPP News

The NIPP News is produced by the Office of Infrastructure Protection. NIPP partners are welcome to submit input. To submit information for inclusion in upcoming issues, please contact NIPP@dhs.gov. Recipients of this newsletter are encouraged to disseminate it further to their critical infrastructure partners.

> Learn more about the DHS critical infrastructure protection program at www.dhs.gov/criticalinfrastructure.